



HISPANIC/LATINO QUALITY OF LIFE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
April 22, 2015 MINUTES

The Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday March 25, 2015 at the Street Jones Building at 1000 E. 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78702.

The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Diego Martinez-Moncada, Emilio Zamora, Jill Ramirez and Maria Rios

Staff in Attendance: Marion Sanchez, Community Engagement Consultant

1. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Zamora and seconded by Commissioner Ramirez to approve the minutes. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote.

2. Citizens Communication

The following citizen signed up for citizen communication:

- Cynthia Valadez

3. Welcome and Introduction of new Commissioners

Commissioners Rios and Ramirez were welcomed and introduced as newly appointed commissioners.

4. Presentation from the Communications & Public Information Office regarding departmental programs, projects and initiatives involving and promoting civic engagement. (Presenter: Doug Matthews, Chief Communications Director).

Chief Communications Director Doug Matthews provided a presentation and discussion regarding departmental programs, projects and initiatives involving and promoting civic engagement.

Vice Chair Zamora asked for information on parity from the departments and had questions about data and disbursement of funds. Mr. Matthews stated that is information the staff liaison can provide the requested information to the commission.

Commissioner Ramirez asked if Mr. Matthews could come back to discuss the Community Engagement Task Force. Mr. Matthews said he would suggest late June/July would be a good time to report back to the Commission on the Task Force. The staff liaison will coordinate that presentation.

5. Presentation from the African-American Resource Advisory Commission regarding their budget process and their consent (Presenter: Daryl Horton, Chair).

Reverend Horton provided a history on the African-American Resource Advisory Commission and how they determine which areas of the Quality of Life Initiative to focus on each year.

Shubhada Saxena, a member of the Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission (AAQOLAC), spoke as an individual, not as a representative of the AAQOLAC and provided an overview of the Commission and although they are newly formed, their process for making budget recommendations to the Council.

6. Presentation from Neighborhood Housing and Community Development on the HUD action plan. (Presenters: Jim Padilla and Erica Leak).

Jim Padilla, Research Analyst Senior, and Erica Leak, Housing Policy and Planning Manager, provided a presentation and overview on the HUD action plan.

Vice-Chair Zamora requested staff send Austin specific housing information. Ms. Leak stated she would send the information and links that are available on the website.

7. Election of Officers

Chair Martinez-Moncada resigned as Chair of the Commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rios and seconded by Commissioner Martinez-Moncada to nominate Commissioner Ramirez to become Chair of the Commission. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding policy recommendations made to the City Council regarding a guiding parity principal to be adopted by the City of Austin.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rios and seconded by Commissioner Ramirez to request that the Austin City Council review the Commission's 2014 recommendations as the ongoing will of the Commission and that they give special consideration to the parity principle recommendation and the fact that the Commission deliberated with the understanding that immigrant and undocumented Latino families were also part of the purview. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote.

9. Discussion and possible action regarding the City of Austin's acknowledgement of immigrant and undocumented individuals living with the city.

This motion was combined with the motion passed on item #8

10. Discussion and possible action regarding budget recommendations for the FY 15/16 budget year

The Commissioners discussed meeting with Council Members to review their budget recommendations from FY 14/15 that remain consistent with this year's budget recommendations. They also discussed the possibility of speaking during Citizens Communications at a future City Council meeting.

Vice-Chair Zamora asked about scheduling a special called meeting to further discuss budget recommendations. Ms. Sanchez said she would look into the requirements and work with the Chair to schedule a meeting.

11. Discussion of future agenda items

The Commission will have a Special Called meeting to focus on a budget planning session.

There will be a discussion on the recommendation on mapping and alignment of youth services.

There will be a discussion and presentation from the CCC on the Brackenridge Track of the Innovation Zone.

There will be a discussion on establishing a City sponsored VISTA program.

There will be a discussion to recommend that the City to establish an office of development (specifically for grant seeking) in the Economic Development Department or the Health and Human Services Department.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chair Ramirez to adjourn and it was seconded by Commissioner Rios. The Commission approved the motion unanimously. The Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.